

## Michael Harrison

State Representative 9th Legislative District

206-A War Memorial Building Nashville, TN 37243-0109 TEL (615) 741-7480 FAX (615) 253-0307

Toll Free: 1-800-449-8366 Ext 17480 rep.mike.harrison@capitol.tn.gov
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House of Representatives State of Tennessee

NASHVILLE

115 Green Acres DriveRogersville, TN 37857(423) 235-6803

## MEMBER OF COMMITTEES

Finance, Ways & Means Health and Human Resources

## CHAIRMAN

Professional Occupations Sub-Committee

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commissions 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: HB Docket No. 11-109

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I know you have heard from many people in rural areas concerned about the lack of access to wireless broadband. As a state representative from a rural district in Tennessee, I too, am concerned with the disparity between the rural and urban areas access to information. I am writing today regarding LightSquared's, pending mobile broadband network and the Global Positioning System (GPS).

As you are aware, one of our nation's most pressing priorities is the immediate need for more spectrum capacity purposed for mobile wireless broadband. The rising use and continued innovation of mobile devices requiring wireless broadband in the coming years threatens to overwhelm the capacity currently offered by wireless providers. Responding to this challenge is essential to American economic growth through the leveraging of information technology and telecommunications capabilities.

LightSquared's pending network in L-band spectrum would help address this challenge by creating a new national mobile broadband wholesaler with next-generation LTE technology, to be constructed with private funds. The Commission has correctly urged the company to plan for an aggressive buildout with a mandate to cover at least 260 million Americans by 2015.

I also commend the Commission for withholding final approval of LightSquared's launch pending full study and satisfactory resolution of the GPS interference problem. GPS is relied upon by tens of millions of American business and consumers. It is essential to national security, aviation and public safety. GPS is a national asset that must not be weakened.

I urge you to make it a top priority to help facilitate a technical solution that would solve the interference issue in the L-Band, allowing for expanded mobile broadband infrastructure while also protecting GPS. I am confident that a scientific solution can be found because America's ingenuity remains one of her greatest assets.

Indeed, recent news articles have reported on the development of new GPS receivers that block out interference from LightSquared's signal. Please continue to work toward a solution that benefits all Americans and Tennesseans.

Sincerely,

Mike Harrison

State Representative

cc: Congressman Phil Roe

Senator Bob Corker

Senator Lamar Alexander